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Federal Building 55 Pleasant Street, Room 352 Concord, New Hampshire 03301 603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release March 16, 2004 Contact: Thomas P. Colantuono United States Attorney Terry L. Ollila Mark E. Howard Assistant U.S. Attorneys (603) 225-1552

NEW HAMPSHIRE MAN SENTENCED FOR CONCORD MCDONALD'S ROBBERY

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Concord Police Department Chief Jerome Madden announced that Mitchell Edward, age 21, of Concord, New Hampshire, was sentenced today by United States District Court Judge Steven McAuliffe to an 8 year term of imprisonment, followed by a 3 year period of supervised release, for the robbery of McDonald's restaurant located on Fisherville Road in Concord, New Hampshire

Edward's sentence was the result of an investigation by members of the Concord, New Hampshire, Police Department. During the early morning hours of February 6, 2003, members of the Concord Police Department responded to McDonald's restaurant after receiving a 911 call from an employee who discovered that the night janitor was inside the restaurant bleeding from the head. Upon entering the restaurant, law enforcement officers discovered that the janitor was lying in a pool of blood next to a back office. Law enforcement also observed that the lock on the safe in the restaurant had been smashed and that pieces of the lock were scattered on the floor. The janitor was taken from the scene and transported to Concord Hospital for treatment of multiple fractures of the face and skull attributed to blunt force trauma.

Although the janitor was severely injured and required numerous emergency surgeries in order to treat his face and skull injuries, he recalled some of the details of the attempted robbery. He indicated that at approximately 3:00 a.m., he took a cigarette break outside the back entrance of the restaurant. While outside, he observed two male individuals, who were later identified as Mitchell Edward and Travis Turcotte, disguised with bandanas over their faces and heads. Turcotte and Edward approached the janitor and forced him into the McDonald's. Once inside, Turcotte, who was carrying a bat, struck the janitor on the leg with the bat. The janitor fell from the blow and hit his head on the edge of a metal shelf in the rear of the restaurant. He was then tied up with an electrical extension cord and moved away from the back exit door.

Travis Turcotte proceeded to the area of the McDonald's and located the safe while Mitchell Edward remained with the janitor. Turcotte attempted to breach the safe, but was unsuccessful. Mitchell Edward also attempted to breach the safe, but was also unsuccessful. After remaining in the McDonald's for a brief period of time, the two left without ever entering the safe or obtaining any currency.

On January 29, 2004, Travis Turcotte, age 24, of Concord, New Hampshire, pled guilty in Merrimack County Superior Court before Judge Kathleen McGuire to Burglary, Robbery and First Degree Assault. Turcotte was sentenced by the Court to an 18 year term of imprisonment, which consisted of a 7 ½ - 15 year term of imprisonment on the Robbery conviction, a 7 ½ - 15 year term of imprisonment on the Burglary conviction, and a 3 - 6 year term of imprisonment on the First Degree Assault conviction, all ordered to run consecutively to one another.

United States Attorney Colantuono applauded the prosecution and sentencings, stating, "the United States Attorney's Office and Concord Police Department have forged a strong bond in the on-going effort to prosecute individuals responsible for violent crimes in this state and to protect the victims of such crimes. This case represents the fruit of our continuing labors to protect the citizens of the State of New Hampshire and ensure that individuals who are convicted of violent crimes be punished to the fullest extent of the law." The case was investigated by the Concord, New Hampshire Police Department, and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Mark Howard and Terry Ollila.